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GENERAL

1. Declaration on Schuman plan to be issued--According to US Ambassador Bruce in Paris, the text of the French declaration on the Schuman industry pooling plan has already been accepted by Belgium, Luxembourg, and Italy and will probably be issued 2 June 1950. Bruce adds that the Netherlands will probably join in the declaration after trying to make some reservations, and that the UK will not join in the declaration as now drafted. Bruce observes that one school of French thought, in which Socialists are prominent, favors altering the present terms of the declaration in the hope that the UK might eventually participate. The opposing school holds that the UK will never surrender the measure of sovereignty called for under the plan, and that the UK would be given an opportunity to obstruct the development of the plan if invited to participate in the forthcoming deliberations on "a special basis." This school also considers the British economy in its present form to be "almost irreconcilable with the fundamental purposes" of the Schuman plan.

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